[XXXVIth Year.] THE [No. 1758.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1780.

PHILADELPHIA, *September* 12.

Extract of a letter from general Gates, to the president of congress, dated Hillsborough, August 20, 1780.

SIR,

IN the deepest distress and anxiety of mind, I am obliged to acquaint your excellency with the defeat of the troops under my command. I arrived with the Maryland line, the artillery, and the North-Carolina militia, on the 13th instant, at Rugely, 13 miles from Camden; took post there, and was the next day joined by general Stevens, with 700 militia from Virginia; colonel Sumpter, who was at the Waxaws with 400 South-Carolina militia, had, the Sunday before, killed and taken near 300 of the enemy, who were posted at the Hanging Rock. This, and other strokes upon the enemy's advanced posts, occasioned their calling in all their out posts to Camden. The 15th at day light, I reinforced colonel Sumpter with 300 North-Carolina militia, 100 of the Maryland line, and two 3 pounders from the artillery, having previously ordered him down from the Waxaws, and directed, as soon as the reinforcements joined him, that he should proceed down the Wateree, opposite to Camden, intercept any stores coming to the enemy, and particularly the troops from Ninety-Six, who were likewise withdrawn from that post. This was well executed by colonel Sumpter, as his letter enclosed will shew.

Having communicated my plan to the general officers, in the afternoon of the 15th instant, it was resolved to march at 10 at night, to take post in a very advantageous situation, with a deep creek in front, seven miles from Camden; the heavy baggage, &c. being ordered to march immediately by the Waxaw road. At 10 the army began to march in the following order.—Colonel Armond's legion in front, supported on both flanks by colonel Porterfield's regiment, and the light infantry of the militia, the advanced guard of infantry, the Maryland line, with their artillery in front of the brigades, the North-Carolina militia, the Virginia militia, the artillery, &c. and the rear guard. Having marched about five miles, the legion was charged by the enemy's cavalry, and well supported on the flanks, as they were ordered, by colonel Porterfield, who beat back the enemy's horse, and was himself unfortunately wounded; but the enemy's infantry advancing with a heavy fire, the troops in front gave way to the first Maryland brigade, and a confusion ensued, which took some time to regulate. At length, the army was ranged in line of battle, in the following order: general Gist's brigade upon the right, with his right close to a swamp, the North-Carolina militia in the center, and the Virginia militia, with the light infantry and Porterfield's corps, upon the left; the artillery divided to the brigades, and the first Maryland brigade as a corps de reserve, and to cover the cannon in the road, at a proper distance in the rear. Colonel Armond's corps were ordered to the left, to support the left flank and oppose the enemy's cavalry. At day light the enemy attacked and drove in our light party in front, when I ordered the left to advance and attack the enemy; but to my astonishment, the left wing and North-Carolina militia gave way. General Caswell and myself, assisted by a number of officers, did all in our power to rally the broken troops, but to no purpose; for the enemy coming round the left flank of the Maryland division, completed the route of the whole militia, who left the continentals to oppose the enemy's whole force. I endeavoured, with general Caswell, to rally the militia at some distance, on an advantageous piece of ground, but the enemy's cavalry continuing to harrass their rear, they ran like a torrent, and bore all before them. Hoping yet, that a few miles in the rear, they might recover from their panic, and again be brought into order, I continued my endeavour, but this likewise proved in vain.

The militia having taken to the woods, in all directions, I concluded with general Caswell, to retire towards Charlotte. I got there late in the night, but reflecting that there was no prospect of collecting a force at that place, adequate to the defence of the country, I proceeded with all possible dispatch hither, to endeavour to fall upon some plan of defence, in conjunction with the legislative body of the state. I shall immediately dispatch a flag to lord Cornwallis, to know the situation of our wounded, and the number and condition of the prisoners in his hands.

Copy of a letter from colonel Sumpter, to general Gates, dated Wateree ferry, August 15, 1780.

Dear General,

I HAVE just time to inform you, that early this morning I took possession of all the pass ways over the Wateree river, from Elkinses ford to Mr. Whitears ferry, five miles below Camden. The enemy had guards at many different places upon the river, all of which was evacuated last night or this morning, and the guards ordered into Camden, except those at Wateree ferry, which was continued on both sides of the river, of which the guard upon the west side, was surprised by a party of my men, who killed seven, took about thirty prisoners, among which was colonel Cary their commander, together with thirty-eight waggons, loaded with corn, rum, &c. also a number of horses, the boats are all upon the opposite side of the river, the ground upon this side is very bad, the enemy keep up a constant fire, but I have received no damage yet, I intend to keep possession, if I can, until I am honoured with your excellency's further commands. I should not have been so precipitate in my movements, but foresaw the excessive disadvantage that would result from their having the communication open, whereby they were constantly receiving both men and provisions.

The number of troops, regulars I mean, do not exceed 1200, and not as many as 1000 of the militia, who are generally sickly and much dispirited; there is a reinforcement said to be upon the road from town, will arrive in two days, the number about five hundred.

As soon as possible will give you a more particular account of what is passing.

I am dear general, with the greatest respect,
Your excellency's most obedient humble servant,
THOMAS SUMPTER.

His excellency general Gates.

P. S. I have the pleasure to inform your excellency, that I have this instant made about seventy prisoners, all British, six waggons, baggage, &c. just from Ninety-six, many of the prisoners are sick.

Extract of a letter from governor Nash to the delegates of North-Carolina, dated Hillsborough, Aug. 23, 1780.

SINCE our late defeat near Camden, I delayed writing till I could give you some certain account of that unhappy affair. The militia, except one North-Carolina regiment, commanded on the occasion by colonel Dixon, of the regulars, gave way on the first fire, and fled with the utmost precipitation. The regulars and the regiment just mentioned, bravely stood and pushed bayonets to the last. By the desertion of the militia, the enemy were able to turn the left of the standing troops, and to bend their whole force against them. The conflict was obstinate and bloody, and lasted for fifteen minutes. After our brave troops had retreated from the ground, they were fiercely charged by a party of British horse, whom they repulsed, and, to their immortal honour, made good their retreat. General Caswell has sent in a flag, and a surgeon to attend the wounded. As yet we have no particular account of the fate of the missing, except of a few principal officers, among these is the Baron de Kalb, said to be mortally wounded. Generals Gist, Smallwood, Stephens, Rutherford, Butler and Gregory are safe, so is colonel Gunby, who was said to be killed. To add to our misfortunes, colonel Sumpter, who the day before the action had captured a party of the British, with forty waggons, was the day after the action overtaken and surprised near the Hanging Rock, by a party of the British horse. They came on him so unprepared, as to oblige him and his men to fly to the woods, leaving their prisoners, waggons, and even their arms behind them. General Stephens writes to general Gates, that he has collected between 7 and 800 of the Virginia militia and state troops. General Caswell made a stand at Charlotte, near the boundary line, and called in upwards of 1000 fresh men. These he added to colonel Sumpter's party of about 700, and gave him the command of the whole, whilst he came here. I have ordered out three regiments from this district, and mean to put them under the command of general Sumner, and the officers of three regular regiments of this state; so that I hope in a few days we shall be able to assume a tolerable good countenance.

Extract of a letter from general Gates to the president of congress, dated Hillsborough, Aug. 30, 1780.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose to your excellency, for the perusal of congress, my letter of this date to general Washington.

Extract from the enclosed letter to general Washington, dated Hillsborough, Aug. 30, 1780.

SINCE my public letter to congress I have been able to collect authentic returns of the killed, wounded and missing of the officers of the Maryland line, Delaware regiment, artillerists, and those of the legion under colonel Armond. They are enclosed.

The militia broke so early in the day, and scattered in so many directions upon their retreat, that very few have fallen into the hands of the enemy. By the firmness and bravery of the continental troops, the victory is far from bloodless on the part of the foe, they having upwards of 500 men, with officers in proportion, killed and wounded. Lord Cornwallis, remained with his army at Camden when I received the last accounts from thence. Two days after the action of the 16th, fortune seemed determined to continue to distress us; colonel Sumpter, having marched near 40 miles up the river Wateree, halted with the waggons and prisoners he had taken on the fifteenth. By some indiscretion, the men were surprised, cut off from their arms, the whole routed and the waggons and prisoners retaken. Colonel Sumpter, since his surprise and defeat up the west side of the Wateree, has reinstated and encreased his corps to upwards of 1000 men. I have directed him to continue to harrass the enemy upon that side; lord Cornwallis will therefore be cautious how he makes any considerable movement to the eastward, while this corps remains in force upon his left flank, and the main army is in a manner cantoned in his front. Anxious for the public good, I shall continue my unwearied endeavours to stop the progress of the enemy, to reinstate our affairs, to re-commence an offensive war, and re-recover our losses in these southern states.

Published by order of congress,
CHARLES THOMSON, secr.

ANNAPOLIS, *Sept.* 22.

Seven hundred non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Maryland division have rejoined the army.

The following are true copies from two original letters found in a major Rugely's house, thirteen miles from Camden, South-Carolina, the major having departed, on the approach of our troops, in such haste, as not to have time to secure his papers; the originals have been compared with several letters from lord Rawdon to the Baron de Kalb and general Gates, and are exactly and clearly the same hand writing.

Head-Quarters, Camden, July 1, 1780.

SIR,

SO many deserters from the army have passed with impunity through the districts which are under your direction, that I must necessarily suspect the inhabitants to have connived at, if not facilitated, their escape. If attachment to their sovereign, will not move the country people to check a crime so detrimental to his service, it must be my care to urge them to their duty as good subjects, by using invariable severity towards every one who shall shew so criminal a neglect of the public interest. I am therefore, Sir, to request of you, that you will signify to all within the limits of your command, my firm determination in this case. If any person shall meet a soldier, straggling without a written pass, beyond the picquets; and shall not do his utmost to secure him, or shall not spread an alarm for

that purpoſe; or if any perſon ſhall give ſhelter to ſoldiers ſtraggling as above mentioned, or ſhall ſerve them as a guide; or ſhall furniſh them with horſes, or any other aſſiſtance; the perſons ſo offending may aſſure themſelves of rigorous puniſhment; either by whipping, impriſonment, or by being ſent to ſerve his majeſty in the Weſt-Indies, according as I ſhall think the degree of criminality may require. I have ordered that every ſoldier who paſſes the picquets ſhall ſubmit himſelf to be examined by any of the militia, who have any ſuſpicion of him: if a ſoldier therefore attempts to eſcape, when ordered by a militia man to ſtop, he is immediately to be fired upon as a deſerter. Single men of the light horſe need not be examined, as they may often be ſent alone upon expreſſes; nor is any party of infantry, with a non-commiſſioned officer at the head of it, to be ſtopped. I will give the inhabitants ten guineas for the head of any deſerter belonging to the volunteers of Ireland; and five guineas only, if they bring him in alive. They ſhall likewiſe be rewarded (though not to that amount) for ſuch deſerters as they may ſecure belonging to any other regiment. I am confident that you will encourage the country people to be more active in this reſpect, and am, Sir, with much eſteem,

Your very humble ſervant,

RAWDON.

H. Rugely Eſq; major of militia.

Secret. *Camden, July 7, 1780.*

SIR,

I SEND you the names of ſome of the field officers, who are at preſent under general Sumpter's command. Perhaps you may have ſuch acquaintance with ſome of them, at leaſt with their characters, that you may tempt them with propoſals without fear of their betraying you. The ſervice which I would have them perform, is, to adviſe Sumpter to advance and fix his encampment behind Berkley's creek, where there is a very ſpecious poſition.

I will promiſe five hundred guineas to any of them who will prevail upon him to take that ſtep; will give you notice of it; will particulariſe the enemy's force, and mark what detachments are made to ſecure their camp from ſurpriſe. Whoever undertakes it, may depend upon the ſtricteſt ſecrecy being obſerved: for, upon that head, I am ſure I may rely upon you. Very plauſible arguments may be uſed for counſelling Sumpter to take that poſition: it may particularly be repreſented, that he would thereby cover the Waxhaws from the incurſions of our cavalry, and ſecure all the grain of that diſtrict; that Mecan's detachment, from its halting at Hanging Rock, is evidently weak, and acting on the defenſive; and, that as we can ſupport our light troops much more readily from Hanging Rock, than he can ſuſtain his preſent poſition, his advanced parties will always be circumſcribed in their range; and muſt always ſuffer when they fall in with ours. To prevent their having any apprehenſions from me, reports might be propagated in their camp, that Caſwell had defeated M'Arthur, and was preſſing forward againſt me: their credulity would ardently embrace a tale ſo conſonant to their wiſhes; and the aſſerter might, in ſpreading it, make a parade of his zeal. The difficulty will be to procure a proper emiſſary: if he conducts the buſineſs well, he ſhall be rewarded in proportion to the importance of the ſervice. There is in their camp, a lieutenant-colonel Lacey, a priſoner on parole to us, who, endeavouring to perſuade Patten to follow his example, has been confined, and injuriouſly treated by Sumpter; poſſibly, that may be a good channel for the buſineſs. No evil can ariſe from a diſcovery of the propoſal: Sumpter might, indeed, pretend to give into the ſnare, and might lay an ambuſcade for us, but, as I ſhould march prepared for every occurrence, I might probably draw as much advantage from meeting him in that manner, as if I had been the aſſailant. We muſt only take care not to be duped; for if the perſon whom we try, reveals the affair to Sumpter, the latter may go halves with him; and, to entitle him to the money, may encamp at Berkley's creek, one afternoon, and go off next morning. The terms muſt be clear, and *bonâ fide* towards us at leaſt. Should Sumpter be reinforced, I think him likely to take the ſtep without inſtigation. Shew this letter to major Mecan, and believe me, Sir,

Your very humble ſervant.

RAWDON.

Major Rugely.

A New-Jerſey paper of the 13th inſtant mentions, That 6000 of the beſt troops are embarked from New-York, deſtined, it is ſaid, for Virginia.

Extract of a letter from Princeton, dated Sept. 17.

"A deſerter from Staten-Iſland tells me, general Clinton is embarked and ſailed up the Sound towards New-London, yeſterday, with 10,000 men. They had advice of the arrival at Newport, of the ſecond diviſion of French troops."

By his EXCELLENCY
THOMAS SIM LEE, Eſquire,
GOVERNOR of MARYLAND,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS full power and authority is given to me, by and with the advice of the council, to continue the act, entitled, An act to prohibit for a limited time the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live ſtock, peas, beans, oats, and other victual, and for other purpoſes, from and after the tenth day of this inſtant, until the end of the next ſeſſion of the general aſſembly, and to iſſue my proclamation accordingly, provided the embargo be continued in the ſtates of Pennſylvania and Delaware, ſo that the trade of Delaware bay be not open for the emolument of the people reſiding on the waters, or in the vicinity thereof. And, Whereas it appears, that the embargo hath been continued in the ſtate of Pennſylvania until the thirtieth day of this month, and in the ſtate of Delaware until the twentieth day of October next. I do therefore, by and with the advice of the council, hereby continue the ſaid act, entitled, An act to prohibit for a limited time the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, Indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live ſtock, peas, beans, oats, and other victual, and for other purpoſes, made at a ſeſſion of aſſembly, begun and held at the city of Annapolis, on Monday the eighth day of November, ſeventeen hundred and ſeventy-nine, until the laſt day of this month.

GIVEN at Annapolis, this ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord, ſeventeen hundred and eighty.

THO. SIM LEE.

By his EXCELLENCY's command,
T. JOHNSON, junior, ſec.

GOD SAVE THE STATE.

Annapolis, Sept. 21, 1780.

To be LET, and entered on the third day of November next,

THE HOUSE, GARDEN, and STABLES, now occupied by Mr. JOHN BALL, in this city. For terms apply to

MARY REYNOLDS,
next door to Mrs. Anne Kingold's.

THE ſubſcribers requeſt all perſons, having claims againſt ELIE VALLETTE, deceaſed, to make them known as ſoon as convenient to Thomas Harwood, of the city of Annapolis; and thoſe indebted are deſired to make payment.

ELIZ. VALLETTE, executrix,
THO. HARWOOD,
WILL. BROGDEN,
JOHN BROGDEN, } executors.

September 11, 1780.

THERE are for ſale, at col. Sharpe's plantation, near Annapolis, ſeveral full blooded horſes, particularly a beautiful bright bay horſe, five years old, fifteen hands high, which was got by col. Lloyd's Traveller; his dam was by Gorge's Juniper, his grand dam by Morton's Traveller, and his great grand dam by the Godolphin Arabian.

A cheſnut colt, four years old, fifteen hands high, which was got by governor Eden's horſe Badger; his dam by col. Taſker's Othello, his grand dam by Morton's Traveller, and his great grand dam by the Godolphin Arabian.

A cheſnut colt, two years old, fourteen hands and a half high, got by Sweeper, which was got by Dr. Hamilton's Figure; his dam was by Morton's Traveller, and his grand dam by the Godolphin Arabian.

WILLIAM YELDELL.

TREASURY-OFFICE,
Annapolis, Sept. 13, 1780.

NOTICE is hereby given, that bills of credit are now in the office for exchanging the quota of this ſtate of the bills of credit emitted by congreſs, agreeable to an act of the general aſſembly.

STRAYED or STOLEN, from William Watſon's, on the 12th day of September inſtant, a dark bay HORSE, about 8 or 9 years old, with a large ſwitch tail, has two ſaddle ſpots upon the fore part of his back, is rough ſhod all round, one foot-lock trimm'd, the other three not, paces only when rode. Whoever delivers the ſaid horſe to William Watſon or Beale Hammond in Baltimore county, ſhall receive one hundred dollars reward.

September 14, 1780.

To be SOLD by public VENDUE, on Monday the 25th inſtant, on the premiſes,

ONE moiety of a tract of land called Beall's Reſerve, containing 126 acres, lying in Prince-George's county, about 3 miles from the town of Queen-Anne, on Patuxent river, ſubject to a dower of £.4 ſpecie annually; there are ſome improvements, with an orchard of about 100 bearing apple trees, and ſundry other fruit trees, the ſoil is well adapted to making corn and tobacco.

And on the following Tueſday the 26th inſt. will be ſold by public vendue, on the premiſes, one other moiety of a tract of land called Scorton and Berge, lying in Anne-Arundel county, about 2 miles from London-town, containing 215 acres, ſubject to a dower of £.6 13 4 ſpecie annually, there are ſome old buildings, and upwards of 300 bearing apple trees, with many other valuable fruit trees; a very excellent meadow may be made with but little trouble and expence, the land very ſuitable for farming. Good titles will be made to the purchaſers by

STEPHEN MOOR.

N.B. The ſales to begin at 11 o'clock each day.

Sept. 14, 1780.

For SALE,

A HEALTHY ſtrong negro man, about thirty-five years of age; he is a good carter and ploughman, and underſtands all ſorts of plantation buſineſs, he has been ſeveral voyages to ſea, and would make a good ſailor. For terms apply to Meſſieurs Eaſtman and Neth, merchants, Annapolis.

Cæcil county, Sept. 4, 1780.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the veſtry of St. Mary Anne's pariſh, do intend to petition the next general aſſembly of this ſtate, to paſs an act to enable them to ſell and convey the glebe land in ſaid pariſh, and to put the money ariſing therefrom to intereſt, until another tract of land more convenient for a glebe, can be purchaſed.

Signed by order of the veſtry,
THO. HUGHES, reg.

September 6, 1780.

THE ſubſcriber, having formerly petitioned the general aſſembly of Maryland for a law to remedy ſome defects in his title to the water lot No. 12, and part of the water lot No. 13, ſituate in Cheſter-town, on Cheſter river, in the ſaid ſtate, hereby gives public notice (agreeable to an order of that honourable houſe) that he intends to apply to the next general aſſembly, at their firſt ſeſſion, to have the prayer of his ſaid petition granted, of which all concerned are deſired to take notice.

ELEAZER M'COMB.

Anne-Arundel county, Sept. 12, 1780.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the ſubſcribers intend to prefer a petition to the next general aſſembly of this ſtate, praying an act may paſs to confirm the laſt will of Joſeph Watſon, late of Anne-Arundel county, planter, deceaſed.

JOHN POLTON,
MARY POLTON.

Frederick county, Maryland.

WHEREAS the ſubſcriber obtained a warrant out of the land-office in the year 1763, which warrant was executed, and a certificate returned to the land-office, by the name of Hill in the Middle, agreeable to the rule and practice of ſaid office, and all other requiſites complied with; but before the iſſuing of a patent, he was under the neceſſity of bringing an action of treſpaſs and ejectment, which action is now depending in the general court: Theſe are therefore to give public notice, that after this ſhall have been advertiſed eight weeks, he intends to apply to the general aſſembly for an act to paſs, to direct the regiſter of the land-office to iſſue a patent, or to enable him to proſecute the ſaid ſuit, in as good and ample a manner as if the ſaid patent had iſſued.

JOHN TRAMMELL.

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